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RHONDDA BOROUGH COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

1955

R. B. MORLEY-DAVIES

M.B., B.Ch., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

825

12 JAN 1970

R H O N D D A B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

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R. B. MORLEY-DAVIES

M.B., B.Ch., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

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HEALTH COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR - Councillor J. G. Elias, J.P.

CHAIRMAN:-

Councillor A. T. Allen.

MEMBERS:-

Alderman E. J. Williams
" W. C. Vening
" D. Murphy
" I. Williams
" (Mrs.) C. M. Parfitt, J.P.

Councillor (Mrs.) G. Ellis (part year)
" Ll. Davies
" C. J. Thomas
" (Mrs.) M. J. Williams (part year)
" W. D. Griffiths (part year)
" R. Matthews
" J. Gwyn
" C. R. Powell (part year)
" R. V. Hughes

AND THE CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE COMMITTEE - Councillor A. E. Street.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR - Councillor J. G. Elias, J.P.

CHAIRMAN:-

Alderman D. Murphy.

MEMBERS:-

Alderman E. J. Williams
" W. C. Vening
" D. Murphy
" I. Williams
" (Mrs.) C. M. Parfitt, J.P.

Councillor (Mrs.) G. Ellis (part year)
" Ll. Davies
" C. J. Thomas
" (Mrs.) M. J. Williams (part year)
" W. D. Griffiths (part year)

HOUSING COMMITTEE - continued.

Councillor R. Matthews
" J. Gwyn
" C. R. Powell (part year)
" R. V. Hughes
" A. T. Allen

AND THE CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE COMMITTEE - Councillor A. E. Street
AND Mrs. M. J. Harcombe.

OFFICIALS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health — R. B. Morley-Davies, M.B., B.Ch., B.Sc., D.P.H.
Tel. No: Pentre 2130

Chief Sanitary Inspector — (a.c.) W. J. Evans

Sanitary Inspectors	Telephone No.
(a.) I. T. Watkins	Porth 49
(b.c.) R. B. Davies	Tonypandy 2361
(a.c.) J. J. Evans (retired 30.9.55)	Porth 175
(b.c.) R. M. Lewis	Ferndale 63
(b.c.) H. G. Thomas	Pentre 2276
(b.c.d.) C. J. Bumford	Pentre 3222
(b.c.) S. Mason	Pentre 3224
(b.c.) J. G. Evans	Tonypandy 2239
(b.c.) J. Williams	Porth 142
(b.c.) W. E. Davies (part year)	-

Shops Inspectors

(b.c.) H. G. Price	Ferndale 109
(b.c.) D. Collins	Pentre 3327

Meat Inspector

(b.c.) W. R. Thomas

Public Analyst (part time)

D. E. Jones, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Clerical Staff:-

Chief Clerk S. Davies

Others:-

C. H. Rees
W. John
W. C. Jones
J. Hodder
G. Griffiths (part year)
Miss L. Harris
C. Pugh (temp.)(part year)
Miss D. H. Pye
D. Jones
Miss M. Davies (temp.)(part year)

Rodent Control:-

Supervisor D. J. Davies

Operatives:-

W. Ingram	H. G. Evans
J. M. Williams	L. I. Wynne
W. Jones	T. E. Wallace

NOTES.

(a.). Holds the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.

(b.). Holds the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

(c.). Holds the Meat Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.

(d.). Holds the Certificate in Sanitary Science granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TYDFIL HOUSE,
PENTRE, RHONDDA.
1st April, 1957.

To the MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF RHONDDA.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the privilege to submit my Annual Report for 1955 for your consideration.

An event of historic importance occurred during the year when Her Majesty, the Queen, graciously approved the granting of a Charter of Incorporation creating the authority a Municipal Borough.

Once again the routine work of my department was greatly facilitated by the interest of members and the co-operation of other chief officers of the Council. The staff of my own department continued to give me their most loyal support and assistance during the year.

Yours sincerely,

R. B. Morley-Davies.

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF RHONDDA.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1955

Area	23,886 acres
Population (Census, 1951)	111,389
Population (Estimated at Midsummer, 1955)	108,210
Number of inhabited houses	28,543

	Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1,000 Population
Live Births -				
Legitimate ...	745	721	1,466	13.54
Illegitimate . .	19	16	35	0.32
	764	737	1,501	13.87
Still Births ...	32	28	60	-
Still Births per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births ...			38.4	
Deaths from all causes	878	704	1,582	14.6

	No.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate per 1,000 Total Births
Maternal Deaths -			
Other Puerperal Causes ...	2	1.33	1.28

Deaths under 1 year -

All Infants ...	48	Rate per 1,000 Live Births ...	31.9
Legitimate Infants	48	Rate per 1,000 Leg. Live Births	31.9
Illegitimate Infants	-	Rate per 1,000 Illeg. Live Births	-

	No.	Rate per 1,000 Population
Deaths from special causes		
Measles	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	2	0.02
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	32	0.03
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	0.01
Cancer	229	2.1

S E C T I O N I.

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population of the Borough in 1955 was 108,210 - a decrease of 520 persons as compared with the estimate for the preceding year. Thus the yearly loss of population continues, as is shown in the following Table:-

Table showing estimated loss of population from the district 1945 - 1955.

TABLE I.

Year		Population change ±
1945	...	- 1,750
1946	...	- 3,360
1947	...	- 1,280
1948	...	+ 960
1949	...	- 170
1950	...	- 330
1951	...	- 1,600
1952	...	- 900
1953	...	- 700
1954	...	- 370
1955	...	- 520

At the end of the year the population showed a natural decrease of 90.

BIRTHS.

1,487 live births were registered in 1955 as belonging to women normally resident within the Rhondda area and of these 38 were illegitimate.

The birth rate per 1,000 population was 13.74.

During 1955, 61 still-births occurred and Table II shows the still-birth rates for the past 10 years.

TABLE II.

Year.	No. of Still-Births	Still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still-births.
1946	67	29.3
1947	62	25.6
1948	49	23.0
1949	47	25.0
1950	48	26.6
1951	59	33.3
1952	57	32.2
1953	32	18.6
1954	56	34.6
1955	61	39.4

INFANT MORTALITY.

48 infants died under one year of age giving an infant mortality rate of 32.3 which compares unfavourably with the rate for England and Wales which was 29 per 1,000 live births. Of these 48 deaths, 27 occurred under 4 weeks of age, giving a neo-natal death rate of 18.16 per 1,000 live births.

Table III shows the infant mortality and neo-natal mortality rates for England and Wales, Rhondda and some other county districts in Glamorgan.

TABLE III.

	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.	Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.
England and Wales	29.0	17.3
Bridgend ...	16.0	16.0
Barry	26.8	18.4
RHONDDA	32.3	18.2
Port Talbot ...	34.2	26.2
Caerphilly ...	35.9	24.0
Mountain Ash ...	36.6	27.9
Pontypridd ...	38.24	28.7
Maesteg	44.1	16.5

Table IV gives a short classification of deaths under one year by cause.

TABLE IV.

Cause.	Weeks.		Months.				All Ages.
	0 -	1 -	1 -	3 -	6 -	9 - 1 yr.	
Prematurity...	11	0	0	0	0	0	11
Infection ...	2	2	3	5	2	0	14
Congenital Malformation	7	1	2	0	1	0	11
Cerebral Haemorrhage	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Convulsions...	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Others ...	1	0	3	1	0	1	6
All causes	25	3	9	7	3	1	48

DEATHS.

Number of deaths registered in Rhondda in 1955 ... 1,341

Number of deaths registered of persons normally resident outside Rhondda 69

Number of deaths of Rhondda residents that occurred outside the district 310

Actual number of registered deaths allocated to the district 1,582

Crude death-rate for Rhondda .. 14.57 per 1,000 population

Death-rate for County of Glamorgan .. 13.09 per 1,000 population

Table V shows the distribution of deaths by cause and at certain age-groups for the year 1955

TABLE V

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Deaths in or belonging to the whole District at subjoined ages.									
		All Ages	Under 1 yr.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and under 75.	75 and upwards
Cols.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Causes	(Certified	1582	48	2	4	7	9	93	406	442	571
	(Uncertified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...		32	-	-	-	-	1	10	10	10	1
2. Tuberculosis, other		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
4. Diphtheria		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infection ...		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
10. Malignant neoplasm - stomach		55	-	-	-	-	-	3	16	21	15
11. Malignant neoplasm - lung or bronchus		37	-	-	-	-	-	7	15	11	4

Continued

Continued

Cols. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12. Malignant neoplasm - breast ...	20	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	3	4
13. Malignant neoplasm - uterus ...	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	4	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	107	-	-	-	1	-	9	33	31	33
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
16. Diabetes	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	232	1	-	-	-	1	4	35	81	110
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	188	-	-	-	-	-	5	63	65	55
19. Hypertension with heart disease	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	9	4
20. Other heart disease	279	-	-	-	2	3	13	54	71	136
21. Other circulatory disease ...	78	-	-	-	-	-	1	14	23	40
22. Influenza	6	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	2
23. Pneumonia	48	6	2	1	1	-	2	12	8	16
24. Bronchitis	101	-	-	-	-	-	2	28	38	33
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	62	1	-	-	1	-	3	29	18	10
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	1	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	26	-	-	-	-	-	5	10	5	6
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	6
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
31. Congenital malformations ...	13	12	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. a. Rheumatic fever	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
b. Pernicious anaemia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
c. Convulsions	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
d. Old age	76	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	69
e. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	79	21	-	1	1	2	2	24	18	10
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	9	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	1	1
34. a. Road (other than motor) accidents	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
b. Colliery accidents	10	-	-	-	-	-	6	4	-	-
c. All other accidents ...	25	3	-	-	1	-	3	7	2	9
35. Suicide	18	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	3	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RHONDDA ..	1582	48	2	4	7	9	93	406	442	571

Table VI shows these deaths classified into a short list by cause and arranged according to the frequency of their occurrence.

TABLE VI

Cause of death	No. of deaths
1. Diseases of the Circulatory System	800
2. Diseases of the Respiratory System	249
3. Malignant diseases	232
4. Old Age	76
5. Accidents	45
6. Diseases of the Urogenital System	40
7. Suicide	18
8. Diseases of the Alimentary System	17
9. Other Infective Diseases ...	3
10. Ill-defined diseases	102
TOTAL DEATHS	1,582

SECTION II

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

WATER.

The district derives the major part of its water supply from two main sources. The Borough Council Supply serves the upper and middle portion of the Rhondda Fawr, with the exception of the greater portion of Cwmparc. The Joint Water Board supply the rest of the district with the exception of small groups of houses at Pontygwaith, Ynyshir and Penrhiwfer.

The Borough Water Engineer has provided the details in the following Table VII regarding water consumption in the area supplied by the Council services:-

TABLE VII

Average daily consumption of water in the Council's area of supply.

(a) For trade purposes ...	205,000	galls.
(b) For domestic purposes ...	2,118,000	"
(c) As compensation water ...	180,000	"
(d) To Neath R.D.C. (Bulk) ...	54,000	"
	2,557,000	"

Number of new services installed during the year, giving the number and situation of any groups of houses connected.

(a) Penrhys Housing Site, Ystrad. ...	24
(b) Parc Road, Cwmparc.	5
(c) Brynhyfryd Terrace, Treorchy. ...	5
(d) Castleton Avenue, Treherbert. ...	4
(e) Maindy Crescent, Ton Pentre. ...	3
(f) Maindy Croft, Ton Pentre. ...	2
(g) Bodringallt Housing Site, Ystrad ..	2

Of the 59 samples taken from intakes to the Council Supply, 17 were unsatisfactory. Of the samples obtained from various points on the system of distribution, 3 were found to be unsatisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The public sewers in the district were maintained in a satisfactory condition under the supervision of Mr. A. H. Gillard, the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

During the year, 286 defective sewers, formerly known as combined drains, serving 1,547 houses, were referred to Mr. Gillard for attention and, in 54 other instances involving 381 houses, the reference to the Surveyor was after the service of statutory notices on the owners, in accordance with the provisions of Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

In addition, 211 houses served by single drains, were referred to the Surveyor for repair or attention as a result of written authorisations from the owners.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The number of houses in the district unconnected with the sewerage system at the end of the year amounted to 91; the majority of these houses are farmhouses, or cottages which are on isolated sites on the hillsides, or houses situated in such positions that connection with the nearest sewers is not possible.

The appended Table VIII which is compiled from the reports submitted by the sanitary inspectors, indicates the extent and character of the means of excrement disposal in the district at the end of 1955:-

TABLE VIII

No. of privies with fixed receptacles (middens, etc.)	40
No. of privies with movable receptacles	15
No. of water closets (freshwater, cistern flushed) ...	26,481
No. of water closets (waste water)	-
No. of water closets (hand flushed)	2,007

During the year five houses with hand flushed closets were provided with flushing cisterns.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The scavenging of the whole district, with the exception of the portion of Gilfach Goch which is within the area, was undertaken by the Council by direct labour under the supervision of Mr. A. H. Gillard, the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

The total cost of the collection of refuse and its cartage to the refuse destructor at Dinas, or to the tips, during the year, amounted to £62,825, equivalent to £2.4s.0d per house.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1955.

The sanitary inspection of the area was carried out by nine sanitary inspectors under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, with the assistance of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the following Table is a summary of the information relating to the work done during the course of the year:-

TABLE IX

Inspections under the Housing and Public Health Acts ...	2,044
Inspections of houses served by defective sewers (formerly combined drains)	2,217
Cases of Infectious Diseases investigated	158
Re-visits to infected houses, including Disinfections ..	379
Visits to:-	
Unabated Nuisances and Unremedied Defects	11,087
Dairies and Milkshops	403
Slaughterhouses	224
Bakehouses	280
Common Lodging-Houses	12
Ice-Cream Vendors	153
Fried Fish Shops	115
Factories and Workshops	601
New Buildings (Drains of)	32
Scavenging Depots	66
Re Waste Water	96
Back Lanes	843
Piggeries	57
Interviews	2,255
Overcrowding Surveys	15
Total Inspections and Re-inspections	21,037

House Inspection:-

Preliminary Notices served	1,811
Warning Notices served	2
Statutory Notices served	1,830
Work done without Notice	76

Notices complied with:-

Preliminary	577
Statutory	638

New Buildings certified	156

Drain connections:-

No. of connections made	46
No. of houses connected	156
Total houses connected to 31st December, 1955.	28,452
Total houses unconnected to 31st December, 1955.	91

Meat destroyed	7,301 lbs.
Meat offal destroyed	29,946 lbs.
Other foods destroyed	17,385 lbs.

There were 1,813 informal notices and 1,830 statutory notices served in the course of the year in respect of nuisances, housing defects and other contraventions of byelaws and, during the same period, nuisances were abated or repairs effected in 76 instances without the service of notices, whilst 577 informal notices and 619 statutory notices were complied with. The local authority carried out work at 19 houses in default of owners served with statutory notices. These figures include the work shown in the table on housing statistics.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS, REGULATIONS OR ORDERS.

The number of premises and occupations subject to control by byelaws, regulations or orders in the district was 111 as indicated in the subjoined table. The table excludes dairies on farms which are now under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food:-

TABLE X

Description	Sanitary Districts									Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Bakehouses ...	5	5	2	3	4	3	3	3	6	34
Dairies and Milk Shops	17	2	6	8	4	7	6	7	9	66
Common Lodging House	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Slaughterhouses ...	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Offensive Trades ..	-	-	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	6
	23	8	14	11	8	13	9	10	15	111

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is only one common lodging house in the district, namely, that situated at No. 126, William Street, Ystrad, which has accommodation for ten persons.

The District Sanitary Inspector made twelve visits to the house, and the premises were found to be conducted satisfactorily.

SHOPS.

Table XI gives certain details of Shops and employees for 1955:-

TABLE XI

Number of Shops in the District in 1954	1,930
New Shops established in 1955	66
Shops removed from the Register in 1955	66
Net decrease in Shops in 1955	-
Number of Shops in district in 1955	1,930
Number of Shops subject to a local Closing Order ...	957
Number of Shops in which Assistants are employed ...	647
Number of Shops exempted from Weekly Half-Holiday Order ...	790
Number of Shops exempted from Weekly Half-Holiday Order and in which Assistants are employed	345
Number of Assistants in Exempted Shops	522
Number of Shops and other premises or businesses in which Young Persons are employed other than as Shop Assistants	53
Number of Young Persons employed other than as Shop Assistants	111
Legal Proceedings taken under Shops Acts during 1955 ...	-

The detailed administration of the Shops Acts was continued by two shops inspectors, who are also appointed as part-time sanitary inspectors in accordance with the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and 1951.

The inspectors rendered occasional assistance in the general duties of the Sanitary Inspectors and, more frequently, assisted with the inspection of meat at the slaughterhouses.

The following summary provides information as to the main activities of the two inspectors during the year:-

Observation Duty - number of hours	317
Visits to Shops -	
Primary routine inspections	67
Re-inspections	3,220
Regarding hours of employment, meal-times, etc., ...	33
For de-registration	44
Unsound Food	42
Other Visits	450
Number of Warnings given	19
Sampling Action (Food and Drugs Act). No. of hours ...	703
Slaughterhouse, Meat Inspection. No. of hours ...	63

Details are given in the appended table regarding the defects discovered in shops during the year:-

TABLE XII

Nature of Defect	Number of Defects.	
	Discovered during 1955	Remedied during 1955
Failure to provide and maintain suitable and sufficient -		
Means of Ventilation ...	-	-
Means of providing a reasonable temperature ..	9	1
Sanitary Conveniences -		
Not provided ...	7	4
Not maintained ...	1	3
Means of lighting ...	-	-
Washing facilities ...	2	5
Facilities for taking meals	-	-
Total number of defects	19	13
Number of Shops involved	19	6

No application was received by the Council for a certificate under Section 38 (6) of the Shops Act, 1950, giving exemption from the obligation to provide and maintain suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences and washing facilities, respectively, for the use of persons employed in or about a shop.

The Shops Inspectors did not report any case during the year in respect of which it was necessary to institute legal proceedings for any infringement of the Shops Acts and the Closing Orders made thereunder.

FACTORIES.

The total number of premises in the district affected by the Factories Act, 1937, is 516 made up in Table XIII

TABLE XIII

	Total	Without Mechanical Power	With Mechanical Power
Factories ...	373	84	289
Bakehouses ...	34	1	33
Building Operations	4	-	4
Electrical Stations	9	-	9
Outworkers ...	96	96	-
	516	181	335

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 280 visits to bakehouses and 601 visits to other premises embraced by the Act, during the course of the year.

The appended tables provide information relating to the trades carried on at the premises to which the above-mentioned Act applies, the inspections made during the year and the results of action taken in connection therewith.

TABLE XIV

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health.

	Number of Premises	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories without mechanical power	84	74	-	-
Factories with mechanical power	289	527	-	-
Bakehouses without mechanical power	1	15	-	-
Bakehouses with mechanical power	33	265	-	-
Other premises (excluding outworkers' premises) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority ...	13	-	-	-
Totals ...	420	881	-	-

2. Defects found

TABLE XV

Particulars	Number of Defects			No. of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H. M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient ...	2	3	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	-	-
Other offences - Inadequate fire-escape	-	-	-	-
	4	5	-	-

3. Outwork

TABLE XVI

Nature of Work	Class	No. of Out-Workers (August)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.
Making wearing apparel	1	90	-
Making or filling casques, crackers, etc.	29	6	-
Total ...	-	96	-

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

The above-mentioned Act repealed the Rag Flock Acts, 1911, and 1928, and is administered by the Borough Council as the Local Authority.

The premises of one upholstering and bedding firm are registered under the Act.

Seven samples of filling materials, used in the making of upholstery and bedding, were submitted during the year to a Prescribed Analyst appointed under the Act. The samples were of Cotton Felt, Coir Fibre, Rag Flock, Feathers, Layered Flock, Woollen Mixture Felt and New Cotton Millpuff. All of the samples were reported as conforming to the requirements of the Regulations made under the provisions of the Act.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year there was no cause for taking legal proceedings under the provisions of the Byelaw made by the Council in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The open air swimming baths situated at Treherbert, Ystrad, Porth and Ferndale are administered by the Borough Surveyor's Department of the Council, each bath being under the control of a suitably qualified superintendent. These baths are invariably fully patronised during the summer bathing season and the water is subjected to constant filtration and chlorination, the efficiency of the chlorination being regularly checked by means of colourimetric tests. Samples of water from these baths were also submitted during the summer for chemical and bacteriological examinations at the Public Health Laboratory. Of the samples submitted, 8 were found to be unsatisfactory due to a brief temporary breakdown in the filtration and chlorination plant.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The disinfestation of houses harbouring bed bugs or other insects was undertaken under the supervision of the District Sanitary Inspectors and 15 houses were treated in the district during the year, five being Council houses. The methods adopted included the use of D.D.T. Powder, spraying with zaldecide fluid containing D.D.T., together with the stripping of walls, removal of skirting boards, etc., and the fumigation of rooms with formaldehyde vapour when considered necessary.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

During the year three whole-time rodent operators were employed in carrying out investigations into the prevalence of rodent infestation and the necessary treatment of such infestations in premises in the district, and a similar number of operators were employed whole-time on the inspection and treatment of the sewers in the district, the whole staff of operators being under the direct supervision of the outdoor rodent control superintendent.

Table XVII gives information on the lines required by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in respect of the prevalence of rats and mice, and the measure of control carried out by the rodent control staff of the local authority during the year.

TABLE XVII

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural			Agri-cultural	Total
	Local Auth-ority	Dwelling Houses.	All other (including Business Premises)		
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	111	28,543	4,275	30	32,959
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	18	314	117	-	449
(b) Survey under the Act	-	19	-	13	32
(c) Otherwise	1	635	23	-	659
III. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	21	1,075	164	13	1,273
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. II.) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major ...	5	-	-	-	5
(a) Rats (Minor ...	11	483	86	-	580
(b) Mice (Major ...	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Mice (Minor ...	3	481	45	-	529
V. Number of infested properties (in Section IV.) treated by the Local Authority ...	19	964	131	-	1,114
VI. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments ...	21	1,071	155	-	1,247
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing) ...	-	-	-	-	-
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out ...	-	10	-	-	10

The nineteen properties shown as Local Authority's property in the above table (item V.) include 3 refuse tips.

There are no large warehouses or wharfage in the area to create any special circumstances for the undue presence of rats and mice.

There was no occasion during the year for disinfestation work to be carried out in conjunction with rodent operators of adjoining districts.

During the year 21,131 token baits, 7,241 poison baits and 2,968 post baits were laid, and 4 traps were set.

Table XVIII gives details of sewers treated.

TABLE XVIII

SEWERS

Ward	Number of man-holes treated	Pre-bait takes			Poison baits laid
		Complete	Partial	No Take	
1	737	52	104	659	78
2	688	69	113	597	91
3	626	77	103	536	90
4	472	42	86	411	61
5	411	16	42	382	29
6	645	45	79	583	62
7	577	35	62	530	47
8	782	45	81	719	63
9	607	39	91	542	65
10	438	31	83	381	57
11	1,096	146	360	843	253
Totals	7,079	597	1,204	6,183	896

PUBLIC MORTUARIES.

Two public mortuaries situated in the cemetery grounds, Trealaw, and at Oakland Terrace, Ferndale, have been erected and maintained by the Council and were utilised during the year for the reception of 9 and 7 bodies, respectively. Facilities are available in each of these mortuaries for carrying out post-mortem examinations, and the number of examinations undertaken during the year was one at each, respectively.

DEALERS IN OLD METAL AND MARINE STORE DEALERS.

Section 86 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, is by Order made by the Secretary of State and came into force in this District at the end of 1952. The Section relates to the registration by the Council of persons carrying on the businesses of Dealers in Old Metal and Marine Store Dealers.

During the year, registrations were made for one Dealer in Old Metal and for three Dealers in Old Metal and Marine Stores.

At the end of 1955, there were twelve persons registered as carrying on the businesses of Dealers in Old Metal and eight persons as Old Metal and Marine Store Dealers.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

The appended summary gives details of the cases in which the Department's activities led to proceedings at the Local Courts of Justice in the course of the year.

TABLE XIX

	No. of Cases.	Amount of Fines and Fees.
		£. s. d.
Public Health Act, 1936.		
Non-compliance with Abatement Notices -		
Work done after proceedings commenced	36	6 6 0
Withdrawn after Nuisance Order obtained	2	8 0
Food and Drugs Act, 1938.		
Milk deficient in milk fat	2	11 3 10
Milk containing added water, 5 per cent.	1	15 4 0

Information relating to proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936, is as follows:-

TABLE XX

CASES OUTSTANDING 1954:		
Nuisance Orders 11. Other Cases 4. Total ...	15	
Cases commenced 1955	55	70
Work done after proceedings commenced	36	
Withdrawn, action taken under H. A. 1936 ...	1	
Withdrawn, notice wrongly served	1	
Withdrawn, joint notice to be served	1	
(Nuisance Orders b/d 11, obtained 5. Total 16)		
Work done after Nuisance Order	2	
Withdrawn, purchased by Council	1	42
OUTSTANDING END OF 1955:		
Nuisance Orders	13	
Other cases	15	28

SECTION III

HOUSING

APPLICATIONS FOR THE TENANCY OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

At the end of 1955 a review was undertaken of the applications for the tenancy of Council Houses. This showed that the number of "live" applications was 1,361. These were distributed by Zone as shown in Table XXI.

TABLE XXI

Zone	Number of Applicants
1	470
2	451
3	440
	1,361

During the course of the review, it was discovered that several applicants no longer wished to be considered for the tenancy of a Council House and that many had removed to unknown addresses. Table XXII shows the distribution of the two former classes by Zone.

TABLE XXII

Zone.	Number Withdrawn.	Number Address Unknown.
1	206	94
2	189	48
3	181	152
	576	294

Table XXIIIshows the position regarding the provision of houses by the Council since 1945 (Information provided by the Housing Architect).

TABLE XXIII

	In course of erection 31.12.55			Completed and occupied since 1945		
	Houses	Flats	Total	Houses	Flats	Total
Temporary (Bungalows) ...	-	-	-	250	-	250
Permanent						
(1) Traditional ...	178	-	178	733	-	733
(2) Non Traditional (B.I.S.F. and New Traditional houses)	20	-	20	150	-	150
(3) Conversions ...	-	-	-	-	6	6
Requisitions of existing properties ...	-	-	-	13	-	13
	198	-	198	1,146	6	1,152

In addition to the above, 10 properties accommodating 11 family units had been requisitioned and repaired, when necessary, and allocated to families who were inadequately housed. At the end of 1954, 17 properties accommodating 21 family units had been requisitioned, but during the year 7 properties accommodating 10 family units were released.

Consequent upon inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, followed by interviews with the owners or the service of informal or statutory notices, 1,272 houses were repaired or defects discovered therein were remedied, whilst 19 houses were similarly attended to by the local authority in default of the owners, making a total of 1,291 houses dealt with during the year; the corresponding number of houses similarly dealt with in the previous year was 1,104. As most of the houses in the district have been erected for a period of fifty years or more, their maintenance in a satisfactory state of fitness for human habitation has caused considerable concern to the Authority. Greater pressure has had to be made on house-owners to carry out repairs, and during the year particulars of statutory notices served in respect of 329 houses were forwarded to the Legal Department of the Council with a view of instituting legal proceedings.

During the year, Demolition Orders were issued in respect of 6 houses, and 2 houses were demolished, and Closing Orders were made in respect of underground rooms in eight separately occupied cellar tenements.

The following summary gives details of the nuisances and defects remedied in the course of the year:-

TABLE XXIV

1. SLOP SINKS.

a. Slop sinks repaired or renewed	2
b. Waste pipes repaired	5
c. Slop sinks provided	6

2. WATER CLOSETS.

a. Provision of new water closet...	5
b. Rebuild water closet	3
c. Walls, roofs, doors, floors, etc., repaired	330
d. Flushing appliances repaired or renewed	261
e. Flushing appliances provided	5
f. Pans renewed or provided	175
g. Ventilation provided	1
h. Water supply provided	23
i. Water service pipes repaired	49

3. HOUSES.

a. External walls, woodwork, etc., repaired	695
b. Internal walls, woodwork, floors, etc., repaired ...	823
c. Dampness abated by removal of earth	14
d. Bedrooms ventilated	-
e. Windows made openable	8
f. Window area increased	-
g. Pantry or food safe provided	-
h. Sufficient light in pantry provided	-
i. Water supply pipes and fittings repaired, etc. ...	9
j. Light for basement stairs provided	-

4. DRAINS.

a. Lip trap removed	-
b. Cement well around gully trap	5
c. Grid or cover to gully trap	3
d. Renew gully trap	6
e. Ventilating shaft repaired or extended	6
f. Drain ventilated	-
g. Drains unblocked	107
h. Drains repaired	16
i. Drainage of subsoil water made good	5
j. Inspection chamber provided	2
k. Inspection chamber repaired or renewed	3

5. AREAS.

a. Repaired	37
b. Repaired and extended	1
c. Steps repaired or renewed	37
d. Boundary walls repaired or renewed	80
e. Retaining walls repaired or renewed	57
f. Back lane door and frame repaired or renewed	22

6. Shoots and downpipes repaired or fixed anew	425
7. Dilapidated structures repaired or fixed anew	1
8. Structures obstructing light/ventilation of living rooms removed/repaired	-
9. Dampness abated	763
10. Dirty house cleaned	1
11. Overcrowding	-
12. Animals removed	-
13. Fowls removed	-
14. Bug infestation	1
15. Manure:-	
(a) removed	-
(b) receptacle provided	-
16. Accumulation of refuse removed	7
17. Coals in house or on paving removed	-

TABLE XXV

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1955.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2,044
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	2,044
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	78
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	78
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1,973

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	653

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:-

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs (Section 9)	9
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	-
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners (Section 9)	3

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1,811
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By owners	619
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	16

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	2

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	8
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	-

SECTION IV

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK.

The numbers of persons carrying on businesses concerned with the production and distribution of milk in the district during 1955 were as follow:

Dairy Farmers	13
Purveyors of Milk and Milk-shop keepers ...	63
Non-resident purveyors of Milk	3

The estimated quantity of milk produced by the 13 dairy farmers daily amounted to 120 gallons, of which 111 gallons were sold wholesale to pasteurising establishments.

The estimated quantity of liquid milk sold daily in the district during the year amounted to 6,611 gallons, equivalent to a daily consumption of 0.49 pint per head of the estimated population; the corresponding consumption per head in the previous year was 0.53.

There were 66 premises in the area directly concerned with the distribution of milk, and the number of visits made by the Sanitary Inspectors to these premises during the year amounted to 403. Nearly all the milk distributed in the district was supplied in bottles, which had been filled on the wholesalers' premises where the milk had been pasteurised and, consequently, most of the premises occupied by the distributors of milk were only used for the temporary storage of the bottled milk during the intervals between the reception of the milk by the retailers and the retail distribution thereof to the consumers' houses.

The number of samples of milk sold as "pasteurised" submitted to bacteriological examination during the year was 111, all of which gave satisfactory results on the application of the Phosphatase Test, indicating that the milk had been adequately heat treated. The Methylene Blue Tests were all reported on as being satisfactory.

The milk which had been treated at the two licensed pasteurising establishments in the district was also regularly sampled and 162 samples of treated milk of ordinary grade and 61 samples of treated milk of the "Tuberculin-Tested" designation were taken during the year; all the "Tuberculin-Tested" milk samples and "ordinary" milk samples gave satisfactory results on the application of the Phosphatase Test. The Methylene Blue Tests were all reported on as being satisfactory.

During the year 20 samples of untreated milk produced on farms in the district were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli. All the samples gave satisfactory results.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

During the year the appropriate licences were issued to use special designations in relation to milk, as follows:-

TABLE XXVI

"Tuberculin Tested Milk" Dealer	-
"Pasteurised Milk":	
Pasteurisers	2
Dealers	72
Supplementary Dealers	2
"Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)":	
Dealers	69
Supplementary Dealers	2
"Sterilised Milk"	
Dealers	14
Supplementary Dealers	1

ICE-CREAM.

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors continued to devote considerable attention to premises wherein ice-cream was manufactured, stored or sold, in order to secure compliance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and of the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations by all vendors of ice-cream.

At the end of the year 49 premises had been registered as suitable for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream and 288 premises for the storage and sale of ice-cream; in the latter group of premises there were included 265 shops where ice-cream in the pre-packed state, as delivered by wholesome manufacturers,was stored and sold by retail.

Prior to registration all the premises were inspected, and inquiries made concerning the health of the vendors, particularly in relation to the history of enteric or intestinal infections.

During the year 74 samples of ice-cream sold in the district were submitted for examination by the Methylene Blue Test and provisional grading; 54 or 73.0 per cent. were reported as being in Grade 1 or "satisfactory", 4 or 5.4 per cent. were in Grade 2 or "fair", 2 or 2.7 per cent. were in Grade 3 or "unsatisfactory", and 4 or 5.4 per cent. were classified in Grade 4 or "very unsatisfactory." No results were received upon the 10 remaining samples, owing to unsatisfactory pre-incubation temperatures at the laboratory. Amongst 85 samples taken in the previous year the corresponding percentages classified in Grades 1 to 4 were 83.5, 3.5, 7.0 and 5.9 respectively. The manufacturers of "unsatisfactory" and "very unsatisfactory" samples were informed of these results and were advised to give the matter their attention, especially in regard to personal cleanliness and appropriate cleansing and sterilisation of the utensils.

MEAT.

The number of slaughterhouses licensed in the district during 1955 was 4, but nearly all the slaughtering was carried out in the two slaughterhouses situated at Llanfoist Street, Ton Pentre, where meat inspection was carried out by one sanitary inspector who has had special experience in this work and who was provided with assistance when necessary, and at the slaughterhouse at Howard Street, Treorchy.

The quantities of meat and offal surrendered and condemned owing to the presence of diseased conditions, etc., were 2,711 lbs. and 29,946 lbs., respectively, the amounts attributable to tuberculosis being 842 lbs. and 5,639 lbs., respectively.

The following table gives a summary of the results of the inspection of the carcases of animals slaughtered in the district during the year:-

TABLE XXVII

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR 1955.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,014	434	1,452	13,713	15,254
Number inspected	2,014	434	1,452	13,713	15,254
All diseases EXCEPT Tuberculosis:-					
Whole Carcases condemned	-	1	1	9	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	755	295	4	1,074	1,096
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	37.49	68.20	0.34	7.97	7.21
Tuberculosis ONLY:-					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	88	15	-	-	344
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.32	3.46	-	-	2.27

The total number of carcases inspected in 1955 was 32,867 as compared with 51,109 carcases inspected in the previous year.

The following table shows the percentages of animals which were affected with tuberculosis amongst those slaughtered in the district in each year since 1945.

TABLE XXVIII

Percentages of the number of carcases inspected affected with Tuberculosis

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs
1945	3.37	9.94	1.17	10.73
1946	4.42	9.38	1.64	13.72
1947	2.72	10.38	0.61	4.89
1948	4.31	12.28	0.49	4.21
1949	4.52	8.41	0.14	5.15
1950	4.26	11.42	0.27	4.37
1951	3.47	11.83	0.13	3.94
1952	3.42	11.01	0.10	2.91
1953	3.05	5.92	-	2.61
1954	3.39	7.88	-	2.39
1955	4.32	3.46	-	2.27

OTHER FOODS.

There were 34 bakehouses in the district which, with few exceptions, were of small size. There were no underground bakehouses as defined in the Factories Act, 1937. The Sanitary Inspectors made 280 visits to bakehouses during the year.

A large bacon-curing and "cooked meats" products factory was kept under regular supervision by the Sanitary Inspector concerned.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The principal articles of food condemned during the course of the year, apart from meat in slaughterhouses, were as follows:-

TABLE XXIX

FOOD	lbs.
Tinned Vegetables ...	5,937
Tinned Fruit	3,896
Tinned Meat	3,523
Tinned Milk	1,398
Sausages	573
Cheese	481
Wet Fish	340
Cooked Meats	266
Bacon	131
Fresh Vegetables ...	130
Tinned Fish	112
Tinned Soups	96
Tinned Cream	63
Jams	56
Smoked Fish	56
Palm Kernal Oil	56
Flour	42

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The examination of samples of food or drugs taken under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act was undertaken during the year by Mr. D. Evans Jones, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., at the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory.

The total number of samples submitted during the year amounted to 724, as compared with a total of 797 samples in the previous year. Of 69 formal samples taken, 66 or 95.7 per cent. were reported to be genuine articles of food or drugs and of 655 informal samples 641 or 98.9 per cent. were likewise reported to be genuine.

The details of the samples taken are given in the following summary:-

TABLE XXX

Summary of Samples submitted to the Public Analyst during 1955

Description	Formal Samples			Informal Samples		
	No. Submitted	Results		No. Submitted	Results	
		Genuine	Not Genuine		Genuine	Not Genuine
Milk	60	57	3	420	417	3
Ice-Cream	6	6	-	17	17	-
Butter	2	2	-	2	2	-
Margarine	-	-	-	5	5	-
Lard	-	-	-	1	1	-
Dessicated Coconut	-	-	-	5	5	-
Rice	-	-	-	4	4	-
Tapioca	-	-	-	2	2	-
Cornflour	-	-	-	12	12	-
Sponge and Pudding Mixture	-	-	-	29	25	4
Cake Mixture ...	-	-	-	6	6	-
Pastry Mix	-	-	-	1	1	-
Golden Breadcrumbs	-	-	-	1	1	-
Blancmange Powder ...	-	-	-	8	8	-
Custard Powder ...	-	-	-	6	6	-
Plain Flour	-	-	-	1	1	-
Dessert Powder ...	-	-	-	1	1	-
Golden Raising Powder	-	-	-	3	3	-
Baking Powder ...	-	-	-	8	8	-
Sauce Powder ...	-	-	-	1	1	-
Trifle Pack	-	-	-	1	1	-
Curry Powder ...	-	-	-	2	2	-
Non-Brewed Condiment	-	-	-	1	1	-
Malt Vinegar ...	-	-	-	2	2	-
Spirit Vinegar ...	1	1	-	-	-	-
Tomato Piquant ...	-	-	-	1	1	-
Pickling Spice ...	-	-	-	2	2	-
Ground Mixed Spice	-	-	-	1	1	-
Ground Cinnamon ...	-	-	-	3	3	-
Pudding Spice ...	-	-	-	2	2	-
White Pepper ...	-	-	-	3	3	-
Gravy Salt	-	-	-	1	1	-
Gravy Browning ...	-	-	-	2	2	-
Canned Pears ...	-	-	-	1	1	-
Currants	-	-	-	3	3	-
Raisins	-	-	-	1	1	-
Sultanas	-	-	-	1	1	-

Continued

Continued

Description	Formal Samples			Informal Samples		
	No. Submitted	Results		No. Submitted	Results	
		Genuine	Not Genuine		Genuine	Not Genuine
Dates	-	-	-	1	1	-
Dried Mixed Fruits ...	-	-	-	1	1	-
Meat Paste	-	-	-	1	1	-
Butter Beans	-	-	-	1	1	-
Sausages	-	-	-	24	24	-
Shredded Beef Suet ...	-	-	-	2	2	-
Dried Peas	-	-	-	1	1	-
Frozen Peas	-	-	-	1	1	-
Tea	-	-	-	5	5	-
Coffee and Chicory Essence	-	-	-	1	1	-
Soft Drinks	-	-	-	4	4	-
Sugar Confectionery ...	-	-	-	10	10	-
Arrowroot	-	-	-	1	1	-
Sage and Onion Stuffing	-	-	-	5	5	-
Thyme	-	-	-	2	2	-
Flavouring Essence ...	-	-	-	3	3	-
Solution of Peppermint	-	-	-	1	1	-
Pearl Barley	-	-	-	1	1	-
Dried Sage	-	-	-	1	1	-
Dried Parsley	-	-	-	1	1	-
Ground Nutmeg	-	-	-	1	1	-
Table Jelly	-	-	-	5	5	-
Mixed Peel	-	-	-	2	2	-
Ground Cloves	-	-	-	1	1	-
Boracic Starch, and Zinc Powder ...	-	-	-	1	1	-
Stomach Powder ...	-	-	-	2	2	-
Olive Oil	-	-	-	1	1	-
Epsom Salts	-	-	-	2	2	-
Bicarbonate of Soda ...	-	-	-	5	5	-
Borax	-	-	-	1	1	-
Phosphorized Quinine	-	-	-	1	1	-
Compound Epsom Salts Tablets	-	-	-	1	1	-
Compound Juniper Pills	-	-	-	1	1	-
Infant Powder	-	-	-	1	1	-
Influenza Drops ...	-	-	-	1	1	-
Cough Mixture	-	-	-	2	2	-
Totals ...	69	66	3	655	648	7

The certificates of the Public Analyst disclosed that seven of the informal samples submitted to him during the year were not genuine, three being samples of milk and one each of sweetened sponge mixture, sweetened pudding mixture, tea cake mixture and cake mix, representing 1.1 per cent. of the total number of informal samples taken during the year.

Three formal samples were certified as not genuine, representing 4.3 per cent. of the total number of formal samples taken during the year, the three samples being of milk.

The following table contains details of the samples reported on by the Public Analyst as not genuine and the action taken by the Authority.

TABLE XXXI

Serial No.	Article	Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity	Action taken by the Authority
		(1) INFORMAL SAMPLES.	
169 S	Milk	Deficient in fat, 3 per cent.	Followed up by further samples, certified as genuine.
173 S	Milk	Deficient in fat, 2 per cent.	Followed up by further samples, certified as genuine.
210 S	Milk	Contained added water, 3 per cent.	Followed up by further samples, certified as genuine.
410 S	Sweetened Sponge Mixture	Infested with meal mites (Tyroglyphus Farinae)	Remaining stock withdrawn from sale and disposed of as refuse.
418 S	Sweetened Pudding Mixture	Sample discoloured and caked, and devoid of available carbon dioxide.	No remaining stocks with the trader.
585 S	Tea Cake Mixture	Infested with meal mites (Tyroglyphus Farinae)	Remaining stock withdrawn from sale and disposed of as refuse
622 S	Cake Mix	Fat in sample showed evidence of hydrolitic rancidity.	No remaining stock with the trader.

Continued

Continued

Serial No.	Article	Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity	Action taken by the Authority
		(2) FORMAL SAMPLES	
S 27	Milk	Contained added water, 5 per cent.	Legal proceedings against producer for selling milk not of substance/quality demanded. Fined £4 and ordered to pay 14s.0d expenses and £10.10s.0d Advocate's Fee.
S 65	Milk	Deficient in fat, 10 per cent.	Legal proceedings against producer for selling milk not of substance/quality demanded. Fined £2 on each of two charges and ordered to pay £1.18s.10d expenses and £5.5s.0d Advocate's Fee. Same producer.
S 66	Milk	Deficient in fat, 8 per cent.	

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS.

In accordance with the request contained in paragraph 7 of Circular 1/54 (Wales) relating to Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health for 1954, the following information is submitted in relation to the Rhondda Borough Council:-

(1) The number of food premises by type of business:-

Butchers and Meat Purveyors	109
Confectioners, Bread and Cake Dealers ...	103
Dairy Produce and Milk Shops	10
Fried Fish and Potato Shops	54
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	126
Grocers and Provision Dealers	221
Refreshment Houses and Temperance Bars ...	41
Restaurants and Cooked Meat Shops	12
Sweet Shops, etc.	275
Bakehouses	34

(2) Premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and as dairies under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:-

Manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream ...	49
Storage and sale of ice-cream	288
Preparation and manufacture of sausages, potted meat, pickled or preserved foods ...	29
Preparation of Fried Fish and Potatoes	24
Dairies	63

(3) Number of inspections of registered food premises:-

Ice-cream vendors	153
Fried Fish Shops	115
Dairies and Milk Shops	403

(4) No new educational activity, such as the inauguration of clean food guilds, was introduced in the district during the year. The sanitary inspectors have attended refresher courses on food hygiene and food infections, and during their visits to and inspections of food premises they have concentrated on the individual instruction of the food handlers in these premises on matters relating particularly to personal hygiene. Posters dealing with the handling of food have also been distributed periodically in these shops.

(5) In regard to the disposal of condemned food the tinned foods have been dealt with by incineration in the refuse destructor, whilst cereal or starchy products such as sponge mixtures, etc., infested with mites have, on certain occasions, been disposed of to local pig-keepers. Offal and condemned meat have been removed regularly from the local slaughterhousesby a contractor who owns premises, situated outside the district, where the materials are processed and converted into fertilisers, etc.

(6) No special examination of a stock or consignment of food was carried out in the district during the year.

SECTION V

NOTIFIED INCIDENCE OF CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following diseases were notified as having occurred during the year:-

Erysipelas	13
Scarlet Fever	107
Acute Poliomyelitis	18
Infective Encephalitis ...	1
Meningococcal Infection ...	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	82
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ...	23
Malaria	2
Dysentery	44
Measles	2,121
Whooping Cough	143
Puerperal Pyrexia	12
Food Poisoning	5
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	148
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	15

Table XXXII shows further details of these cases.

The year was marked by the notification of 18 cases of poliomyelitis, this being the largest number in one year since 1947 when 20 cases were notified.

Poliomyelitis.

Of the 18 cases notified, the diagnosis was not confirmed in three cases. Eight children, all aged under 5 years, had the paralytic form of the disease and have some residual weakness, while seven children, whose ages ranged from 20 months to 12 years, had the non-paralytic form and suffer from no permanent ill effects.

Each case that occurred was investigated immediately by a member of my staff, and the families concerned were advised on general matters of hygiene and were asked to keep a voluntary quarantine. In addition, close contacts of the cases were excluded from school and, where a case appeared in a child who was a pupil in a nursery class at an infant school, the whole class was excluded. As a result of these measures, both the Nursery Schools (Alaw and Ynyscynon), were closed for varying periods during the year.

Food Poisoning.

Five cases of food poisoning were notified but in 2 of these the diagnosis was not confirmed. In the three remaining cases, no causative agent or organism was discovered.

TABLE XXXII. RHONDDA BOROUGH COUNCIL. CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1955.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Cases notified in the whole district									Total Cases notified in each Ward.											Number of cases removed to Hosp. from each Ward.											Total Cases removed to Hosp.
	All Ages	All Ages - Years																														
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and up.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cholera	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	13	-	1	-	1	2	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	4	1	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Scarlet Fever	107	-	46	56	3	-	2	-	-	3	7	9	8	29	14	10	5	2	4	16	-	2	5	3	17	9	4	4	1	2	11	58
Typhus Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Relapsing Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	9	2	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic) ...	9	-	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	5
Infective Encephalitis ...	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection ..	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia ..	82	14	12	9	6	11	22	5	3	1	1	-	2	19	10	13	11	-	7	18	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	23	-	4	1	-	4	9	3	2	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	11	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Malaria	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	44	-	12	10	5	12	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	16	-	5	16	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Measles	2121	91	1407	621	1	1	-	-	-	52	30	68	140	398	287	376	261	100	143	266	-	-	-	3	1	-	3	1	1	2	2	13
Whooping Cough	143	8	110	22	-	2	1	-	-	8	4	8	25	10	24	34	5	-	8	17	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	-	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	2	1	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plague	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	5	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis	148	2	4	15	28	49	36	13	1	12	18	18	7	13	14	10	16	11	14	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	15	-	2	5	3	1	2	-	2	1	-	2	1	1	2	1	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2735	120	1613	742	55	89	84	23	9	78	63	107	185	486	363	464	305	121	211	352	1	5	5	8	20	11	7	8	6	8	16	95

SECTION VI

TUBERCULOSIS

Table XXXIII shows the distribution by age-group and sex of new notifications and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1955.

TABLE XXXIII

Age Group	RESPIRATORY.				MENINGES and C.N.S.				OTHER.			
	Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.	
	No. of cases notified.	No. of deaths	No. of cases notified.	No. of deaths	No. of cases notified.	No. of deaths	No. of cases notified.	No. of deaths	No. of cases notified.	No. of deaths	No. of cases notified.	No. of deaths
0 -	3	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
5 -	9	0	6	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
15 -	6	0	22	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0
25 -	30	2	19	8	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45 -	26	8	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
65 +	11	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
All Ages	85	21	63	11	1	0	3	0	5	1	6	0

Table XXXIV shows the numbers of deaths attributed to Pulmonary Tuberculosis and the resultant death rate per 100,000, 1926 - 1955.

TABLE XXXIV

Year	Population	Pulmonary T.B. Deaths.	Death Rate per 100,000.
1926	162,500	128	79
1927	159,270	137	86
1928	154,020	131	85
1929	153,100	120	78
1930	147,000	124	84
1931	141,344	140	99
1932	140,850	111	79
1933	139,500	123	88
1934	137,200	116	85
1935	134,600	110	82
1936	129,900	122	94
1937	124,200	109	88
1938	121,940	90	74
1939	119,300	86	72
1940	117,900	104	88
1941	123,460	87	70
1942	116,600	87	75
1943	113,500	77	68
1944	118,230	75	63
1945	116,480	60	52
1946	113,120	82	72
1947	111,840	78	70
1948	112,800	60	53
1949	112,630	61	54
1950	112,300	55	49
1951	111,389	52	47
1952	109,800	40	36
1953	109,100	30	27
1954	108,730	32	29
1955	108,210	32	30

Table XXXV shows distribution by sex and age-group of deaths and notifications of Respiratory Tuberculosis 1930 - 1955.

TABLE XXXV

Age-Group	RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS			
	MALES		FEMALES	
	No.of cases NOTIFIED	No. of DEATHS	No. of cases NOTIFIED	No. of DEATHS
0 -	26	8	37	7
5 -	143	21	152	22
15 -	541	176	890	387
25 -	693	407	700	567
45 -	500	401	160	127
65 -	90	102	31	20
All ages	1,993	1,115	1,970	1,130

SECTION VII

MISCELLANEOUS

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The bacteriological and chemical examination of materials such as throat or nasal swabs, stools, water, ice-cream, milk etc., submitted by the Health Department were undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory, Institute of Preventive Medicine, Cardiff, and any advice sought in relation to the collection of samples during the course of investigations was always readily obtained from the staff at the Laboratory.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

The local hospital facilities available for the inhabitants of the district are administered by the Pontypridd and Rhondda Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board. The Committee control eleven hospitals, including one convalescent home, with a bed complement of over 1,200 beds with a distribution as shown in Table XXXVI.

TABLE XXXVI

Llwynypia Hospital and Glyncornel ...	190
Porth and District Hospital	110
Treherbert Hospital...	29
Pentwyn Hospital	24
Tyntyla Isolation Hospital	118
Penrhys Small Pox Hospital	14

HEALTH SERVICES UNDER PART III OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT.

The Glamorgan County Council as the Local Health Authority have made arrangements for the provision of the services specified in Part III of the above-mentioned Act, and, with the exception of the ambulance service, the day-to-day administration is undertaken locally at the offices of the Health Department under the direction of the Rhondda Divisional Health Committee. This Committee consists of 16 local members of the County Council, 11 members of the Borough Council and 3 added members nominated by the Divisional Committee and appointed by the County Council; the eleven Members of the Borough Council on this Committee are also members of the Health and Housing Committees of the Borough Council, so that a strong link between the administration of the environmental and personal health services provided under the Public Health, Housing and National Health Service Acts is maintained locally.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 47.

The above Section of the National Assistance Act, 1948, as amended by the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, provides for the removal to suitable institutions of persons who are considered to be in need of care and attention. No action was taken under this Section in 1955.

DISINFECTION.

The arrangements made with the Pontypridd and Rhondda Hospital Management Committee for the disinfection of infected articles of clothing, etc., in the "Equifex" steam disinfector at the Tyntyla Isolation Hospital continued in operation during 1955.

Rooms were fumigated, when necessary, with formaldehyde vapour and sprayed with zaldecide, or other suitable liquid disinfectant, under the supervision of the district sanitary inspectors.